

**FREE PREVIEW OF
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*Living
in the*
YES!

ENCOUNTER
GUIDE

Experience true intimacy with God



LAURA JENKINS BOAL
Foreword by Dr. Brian Simmons
Lead Translator, *The Passion Translation*

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Hang on - we're almost there!

Get ready for adventure!

When I was a brand-new, baby Christian, I thought "having faith" simply meant having the right ideas about God. But true faith is so much more! **GOD** is real, and he invites each of us into a living relationship with himself.

That's what the **YES** is all about. First, in the **YES BOOK**, you'll meet people whose personal connection to God truly came alive. Then you can come here to the **GUIDE** and explore more of that remarkable territory for yourself.

So, you see, this isn't just a "thinking" space. It's an immersive experience.

GOD thinks that **YOUR** story is magnificent, significant, and grand. He gave you this life as a gift to be enjoyed, and an adventure to be lived. Really knowing him is a huge part of that. Like the people in the **YES BOOK**, you too are gonna end up with tales to tell.

Are you ready to roll? The next few pages will help you know what to expect.



Living connected to God:

Pre-Tour Checklist

Here's what you need to bring:

- YOUR TRUE SELF.** We're **keeping it real.** Questions, issues, & confusion are welcome. If you've been using a phony "self," though, please leave THAT behind.
- YOUR SENSE OF ADVENTURE.** We'll visit some places that may be new to you.
- YOUR MIND.** There's plenty of content to engage with and think about.
- YOUR HEART.** God knows and loves you with his whole heart, and he's inviting you to know and love him with all of yours.
- YOUR SPIRIT.** The Bible says you are more than just a huge bundle of thoughts and feelings crammed into a human body. You're a spirit! If your spirit is sleeping, I'm praying that God will breathe on it and wake it up... because that's the part of you which connects with him.
- YOUR HANDS AND FEET.** This isn't just talk. We'll be moving around & doing stuff.
- A BACKPACK.** Jam anything extra in here. If it starts getting heavy, consider ditching things like shame, blame, and insecurity. You'll find better options along the way.

You can find additional content at: www.LivingInTheYES.com/study

From all of us at YES & Co.: We hope you enjoy your tour!

Are you ready?

What are you nervous about ... or skeptical of?

What are you excited about or hopeful for?

You're going to come home from THIS trip with REALLY GREAT treasures, gifts, and souvenirs!

-L.

Choose your tour group: Van, Golf Cart, or Horses?

See the video on YouTube!



www.livingintheYES.com
/study/welcome/



VAN. Angie isn't at all sure about this stuff. She's leading the VAN tour. They'll stay in their seats, with air conditioning and snacks, and watch the sights slide by through the plate glass window.



GOLF CART. Janice wants to be a little more engaged. Her group is hopping on GOLF CARTS for a more open-air experience. They can step off and scout around whenever they want to.



HORSES. If Jesus is involved, Kris is all in! His group will be on HORSEBACK. They'll be right in the middle of everything.

Which tour group appeals to you?

(You can switch groups at any time, and experience the tour from a different perspective.)

HELLO!

MY NAME IS:

AND I'M
ON THE

TOU
R

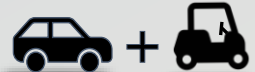
Now,
let's personalize
your experience.

For the VAN TOUR: Follow the VAN icons through the book.



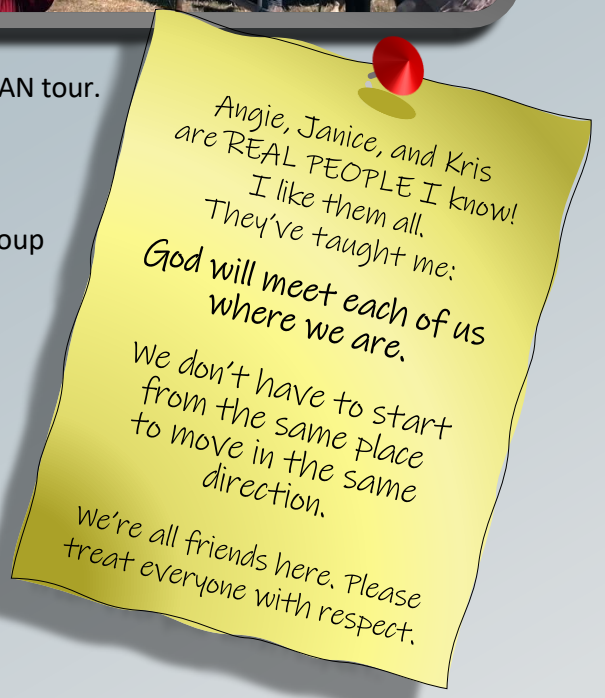
For the GOLF CART TOUR:

Follow the VAN icons... PLUS the GOLF CARTS



For the HORSEBACK TOUR:

Follow ALL THREE icons
& just do everything 😊



Grab your gear We'll all need supplies for the journey.

* THE FOLLOWING WILL BE PROVIDED:

* **WATER.** True worship touches our hearts. It's like living water, filling us with *life*.

* **POWER FOOD.** Did you know the Bible says that we can "eat" the Word of GOD?
Think of it as a *tangible spiritual substance*. It can reenergize and supercharge us.
And this is a premium tour. We brought the good stuff!

* **COM LINKS.** You'll definitely want to stay in touch with your tour group & your guide.
Share your experience with a friend, if you can –
and look for prompts that invite you to engage with God in new ways.

BRING YOUR TRUSTY BACKPACK! Just be aware:
What you cram in here – and what you leave behind – may change as we go.

All right, people! We have places to go and things to do.

- Choose your tour.
- Run your checklist.
- Grab your gear.

And... let's roll!



1

Searching

for the YES!

Does it feel like you're on top of the world today...
Or does it feel like the world just fell on top of you?

Either way, I have good news:

You were made for more.

You were made to connect with the ultimate power source in the Universe:
GOD.






He's real, he's good, and he loves you.

God paid a massive price, so he can give you full access to a life of wonder.

He knows and loves you with his whole heart –
and he's inviting you to know and love him with all of yours.



Here's what you can do right now:

-  **HEAR** the Week 1 playlist at: www.livingintheYES.com/study/ch-1
-  **READ** Chapter 1 in the YES BOOK.
-  **SEE** all that we have in store for you here, in the GUIDE – and respond.
-  **DO** your favorite activities ... let's get you moving!
-  **SHARE** with a group – or with a friend.

Enjoy your week, as we begin our great journey of discovery!



When you finish working through the chapter, write your own summary **HERE:**



Worship:

From my heart to his heart...
From his heart to mine.



WHAT'S THIS? **Worship**

What if isn't someone entertaining you - nor you entertaining God?
What if worship creates a space where your heart reaches out to God ...
and where God's heart reaches out to you? Perhaps music IS the language of the soul.
Give your heart permission to speak to God - and permission to hear his answer.

SCAN ME



Joyful expectation.

Enjoy our playlist ... or create your own!
You can link to ours at: www.livingintheYES.com/study/ch-1
Or scan this QR code with your smartphone's camera & start listening now.

www.livingintheYES.com/study/ch-1



THIS SONG makes my heart sing:

- WHEN I HEAR IT,**
- I think...
 - I feel...



TOOLKIT: I'll remember this song when I need...



Lord, this promise gives me hope:



Lord, what is it that you dream of for me?



GRATITUDE IS POWERFUL!

It changes your brain chemistry and alleviates depression - not to mention giving God space and permission to do stuff. So... let's strengthen your connection to thankfulness and joy!

I am so thankful for:

-
-
-



LIFESTYLE OF WORSHIP:

- I was kind to someone today.
- I told someone what I appreciated about them.

We demonstrate our love for God when we value the people he loves. -SEE MATTHEW 25:37-40



ENGAGE.

Do **AT LEAST ONE** of the following:

I like trees and I can tell you about them. But my neighbor is a forester. He *knows* trees! Merely knowing something in your head is cheap. Truth is meant to *come alive*, both **IN** us and **FOR** us. It becomes part of our being. So today, look for at least one activity that **YOU** can connect with. Let's invite truth to become part of your being.



GO FOR A WALK and think about this: In the YES BOOK (Chapter 1), a group of people climb a mountain.* Imagine you're with them. Are you ... on the sunny path, in the rainstorm, scaling the cliff, or atop the summit? If God came to be with you, right where you are, what might that look like? How would it feel? Talk to God about it.

* You can find this excerpt at: www.livingintheYES.com/study/ch-1



COOK YOUR FAVORITE MEAL. Be very intentional as you collect the ingredients and perform all the steps. What special seasonings make this dish lovely for you? As you cook, think about what different elements blend together to make up your life. Then ask God: What special things has he put inside of your heart, which make you lovely to him? **Alternate:** order takeout and journal about these questions.



PRAY. If you and God are already close, talk to him about what real intimacy means to you. Then ask him how he wants to breathe life into you right now. **If you feel distant from God, or you're not sure:** Start a conversation with God about getting to know him better. Are you open to that? If it's scary, but you're willing to try, tell him about that, too. He'll understand.



Here's what that was like for me:

Large empty white box for writing a personal response.



EXPERIENCE the LIVING WORD:



The BIBLE is so much more than mere "words on a page."

WHAT'S THIS?



Imagine **GOD** forming his heart, will, & intentions into a bundle of **energy**.

Then he releases that **energy** and sends it across time and space, directly to YOU. **OH, WOW!** What's going to happen when you breathe it in?

My words are spirit and they are life.

-JESUS, IN JOHN 6:63

GOD'S WORD *

My Word goes forth from my own mouth.

It contains and gives shape to my will.

It reveals my nature.

It is powerful, purposeful, intentional.

It is laser-focused and effective.

You cannot truly perceive my Word with your mind.

You can only fully perceive it with your spirit.

My Word is a weapon. It breaks the power of my enemies—
the demonic strongholds that would bind and destroy you.

It destroys lies and shows you how things really are.

My Word is wisdom. It shows you what to let go of ...
and what to cling to.

My Word is spiritual superfood, and it fills you with *life*.

It reproduces something of my nature within you.

When you understand my Word, you will crave it.

You will honor it and cling to it.

You will speak it forth.

The promises in my Word are never empty.

They always contain the power to see themselves accomplished.

My Word is activated by your faith.

Then, just as it became alive in Jesus, it becomes alive in you.

When you know who I am and what I want;
when you join your heart and purpose to mine;
amazing things are going to happen!

Lord, open our minds and awaken our spirits
so that we, too, can truly understand the Scriptures.

LUKE 24:45

* DEUTERONOMY 8:3, MATTHEW 4:4, JOHN 6:63, 1 CORINTHIANS 2:14, HEBREWS 4:12A, PROVERBS 30:5,
HEBREWS 6:5B, ISAIAH 55:11, 2 TIMOTHY 2:9B, HEBREWS 1:3, JOHN 1:1, 14; 1 PETER 1:23

Searching for the YES!



No matter
how many promises
God has made,
they are 'Yes' in Christ.
2 CORINTHIANS 1:20, NIV

I pray that the light of God
will illuminate
the eyes of your imagination
[or, the eyes of your heart],
flooding you with light,
until you experience
the full revelation
of the hope of his calling.
EPHESIANS 1:18, TPT

Jesus said,
"I came
that they
can have
real and
eternal
life,
more and
better
life
than
they ever
dreamed of."

JOHN 10:10, MSG

PASS

BEHIND-THE-SCENES TOUR
SPECIAL ACCESS IS GRANTED TO:

[Blank box for name]

(YOUR NAME HERE)

READ ROMANS 12:2, THEN
CHOOSE YOUR OPTION:

- 1. CONFORMATION
- 2. TRANSFORMATION

THE HOLY SPIRIT
WILL BE GUIDING YOUR TOUR

Jesus replied, "What is

[Blank box]

with man

is

[Blank box]

with God."

LUKE 18:27, NIV



This Scripture is speaking to my heart:

[Blank box for response]



Lord, what is the YES that you have for me right now?

[Blank box for response]

INVITATION TO TRANSFORMATION

STOP#1

BEHIND-THE-SCENES TOUR

THE LORD OF THE UNIVERSE IS INVITING:

(YOUR NAME HERE)

TO SPEND TIME WITH HIM ON:

(TODAY'S DATE)

REGARDING:

YOUR EXPERIENCING MORE & BETTER LIFE

BE ADVISED: GOD MAY NOT ANSWER EVERY QUESTION TODAY. ASK HIM WHICH QUESTION(S) HE WANTS TO FOCUS ON.

WHAT'S THIS?



I used to think prayer was transactional, as if I was interrupting God's busy schedule to ask him about my most urgent needs. But it's not like that! My time, energy, wisdom, attention, and love are limited. **God's capacity is unlimited... and he invites us to be relational.** It's like we're climbing into our Papa's lap, and whispering back & forth with him. **These questions are like stairs.** I move towards God. He moves towards me. Who knows? Maybe I won't get past Step 1 or 2 today. But that's okay! Papa meets me where I am, and he brings me life.

HEY! To reach Step 5, we'll need to climb up through #1 - 4 first.



START HERE



THEN GO UP

1 CONNECTED: Jesus, you said you wanted me to experience more and better life, because I'm connected to you. Can you help me to understand your heart? What do you dream of for me?

2 LOVED: How can I step away from fear and live more out of your love for me?

3 EMPOWERED: Lord, what do you want to fill me up with right now?

4 ACTIVATED: What part of your nature is going to start spilling out of me?

5 RELATIONAL REALITY: How do I live this out in my life today?



A thunderous voice cries out in the wilderness:
"Prepare the way for Yahweh's arrival!
Make a highway straight through the desert for our God!
Every valley will be raised up, every mountain brought low.
The rugged terrain will become level ground
and the rough places a plain.
Then Yahweh's radiant glory will be unveiled,
and all humanity will experience it together."

ISAIAH 40:3-5 TPT



Let's Connect



Use these questions to talk things over with a friend, or journal, or start a group discussion.
Feel free to "pass" if you aren't ready to answer out loud.

Chapter 1 - What did YOU think? Disagree Don't understand Meh Flutter WOW!
Which idea do you want to talk about or respond to?

(Going Up The Mountain) Which of these best describes your life now, and why?

Picnic Happy Trails Storm My trail washed out High cliffs ahead Woohoo, what a view!

What are some of the ways people try to search for more *life*?

GOOD WAYS:

NOT SURE:

SERIOUSLY, JUST **NO**:

In John 10:10, Jesus said that he came to give us *more and better life*. What do you think he meant –
Heaven when we die? More of the list above? Or something different?

What sorts of things make it easy to believe Jesus' promise? What things can make it hard?

Think about Jesus' intention. What kind of *more, better life* could you hope for right now?

CHOOSE ONE: Have you ever experienced a significant moment of joy?

What about significant comfort & love, when times were hard?

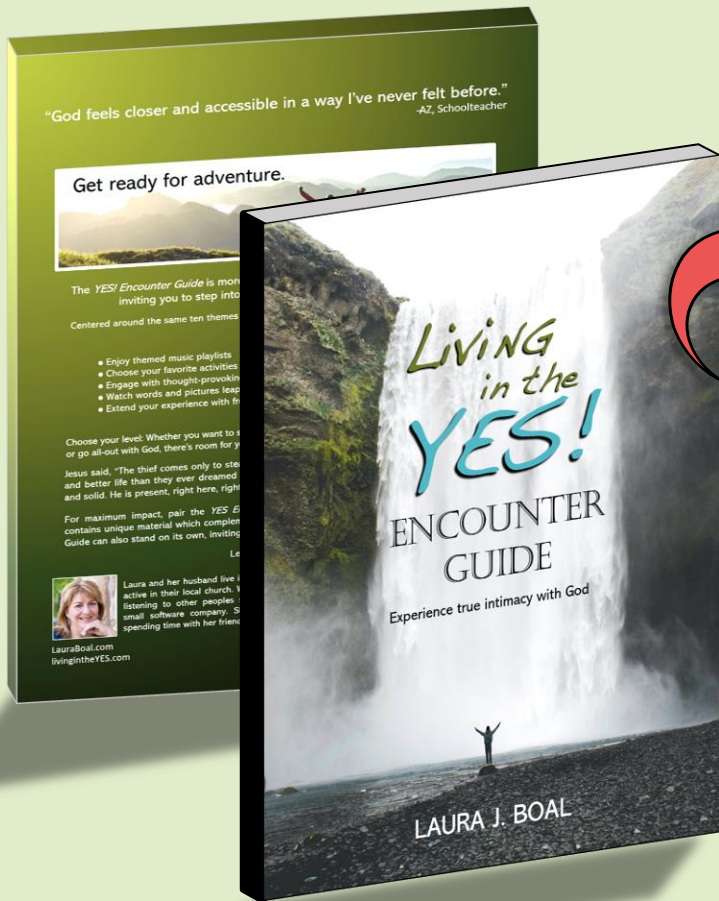
Close your eyes for a minute. Remember that moment, and remember that feeling. If you're willing, share.

End by praying for each other.



The YES! Encounter Guide:

Experience it for yourself!



Over 100 full-color pages packed with thoughtful insights, intriguing questions, inspiring pictures, and colorful illustrations!



SCAN ME

We hope you've enjoyed this free sample! If you want to view the Encounter Guide on Amazon.com, this QR code will take you there ... or click on the link from our website, www.LivingInTheYES.com.

“God feels closer and accessible in a way I’ve never felt before.”

—AZ, Schoolteacher

Get ready for adventure.



The *YES! Encounter Guide* is more than just a book. It’s an immersive experience inviting you to step into a richer, fuller relationship with GOD.

Centered around the same ten themes as the YES book, the Guide draws you into encounter:

- Enjoy themed music playlists
- Choose your favorite activities
- Engage with thought-provoking questions
- Watch words and pictures leap off the page
- Extend your experience with free online bonus content

www.livingintheYES.com/study/welcome



SCAN ME

Choose your level: Whether you want to skim the surface, dig deeper, or go all-out with God, there’s room for you in these pages.

Jesus said, “The thief comes only to steal, kill, and destroy. I came that they might have *life*, more and better life than they ever dreamed of.” (John 10:10, MSG) God’s plans for you are real, true, and solid. He is present, right here, right now, ready to fill your “real life” with HIS *real life*.

For maximum impact, pair the *YES Encounter Guide* with the *Living in the YES!* book. Each contains unique material which complements and extends your experience with the other. Yet the Guide can also stand on its own, inviting you deeper into your own personal connection with God.

Let’s get started today!



Laura and her husband live in Atlanta, where they are active in their local church. When she’s not writing or listening to other people’s stories, she works for a small software company. She enjoys traveling and spending time with her friends, kids, and grandkids.

LauraBoal.com
livingintheYES.com

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